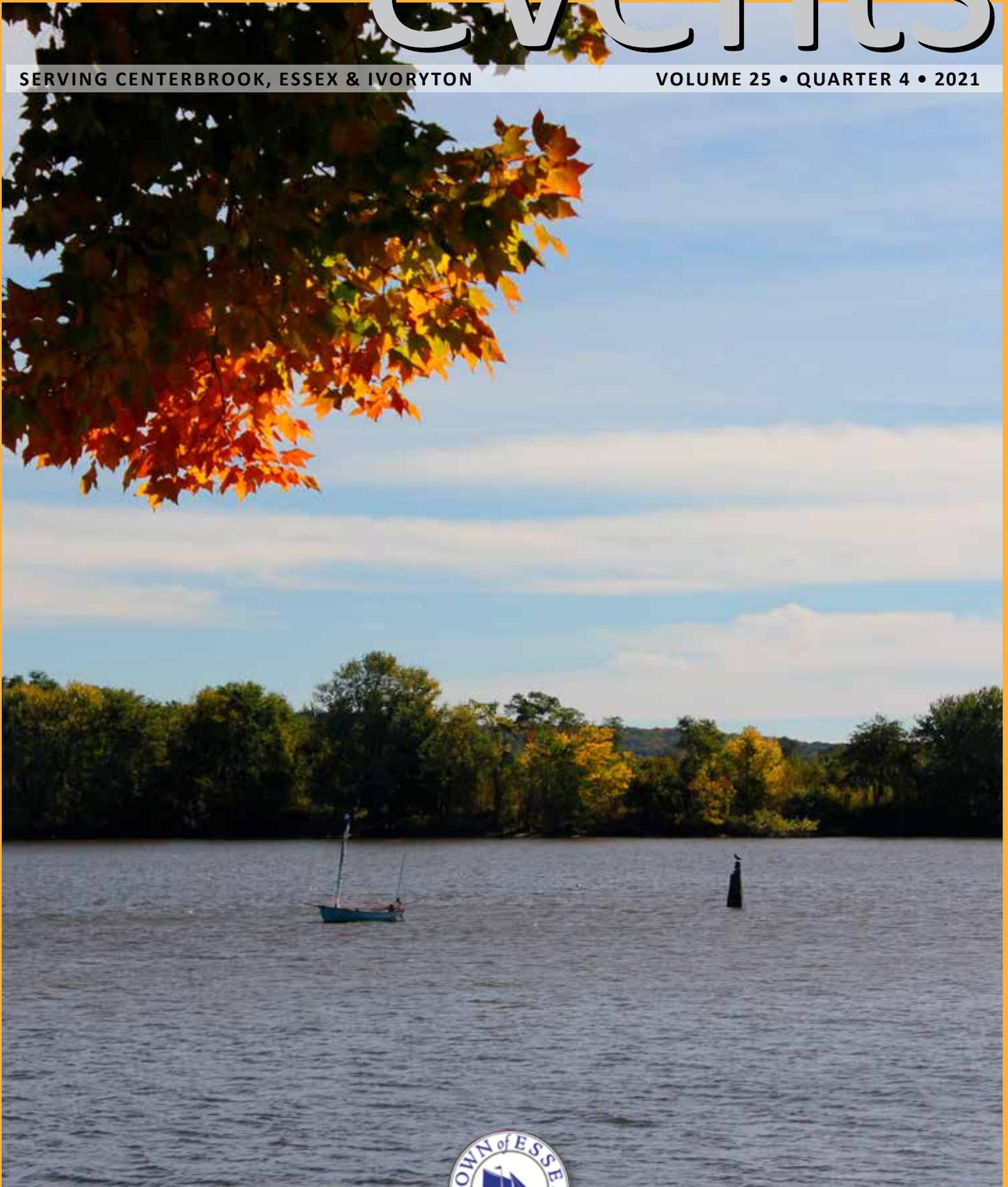


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First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As cooler temperatures settle in, I encourage you to mark your calendars for events happening around town. You may want to check out the outstanding scarecrows adorning the lampposts in all three villages! Bring the kids to the annual Ivoryton Village Pumpkin Festival on Saturday, October 23rd on the Ivoryton green. Dress up in your best Halloween digs for our famous Halloween Parade in Essex Village on Oct 31st. The Trees in the Rigging Carol Sing and Boat Parade will kick off at the Town Hall on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. And of course, the Ivoryton Illuminations will be happening on Saturday, December 24th. Events may be modified due to the pandemic so please adhere to safety guidelines, wear masks and social distance where appropriate.

The Essex Steam Train, Connecticut River Museum, and the Ivoryton Playhouse have upcoming events throughout the fall and winter seasons. To find out more about what's happening in our three villages visit the Essex Board of Trade's website essexct.com and the Ivoryton Village Alliance website at ivorytonalliance.org and the Essex Park and Recreation Facebook page.

We were able to lower the mil rate two years in a row but due to covid we did have a small increase this year. Despite the increase we are still among the lowest in the state. We continue to deliver improved services and strive to enhance the quality of life in our three beautiful villages. To keep our taxes low and remain a beautiful, safe, and desirable destination, we rely on residents to be actively engaged in what's happening in our villages.

We encourage citizens to call if they see vegetation overgrowth on poles, trees that need attention, sidewalk damage, or anything else that just doesn't seem right. We operate with a small, dedicated crew on a small-town budget and rely on every resident being our eyes and ears. All calls can go to my office at: 860-767-4340 x 145.

With hurricane season still upon us, I encourage all residents to prepare an emergency supply kit and have an emergency plan in place. To help you do this, the State of Connecticut website, ct.gov, has an Emergency Preparedness Guide. The **continued on page 5**



Norm Needleman
First Selectman

A large advertisement for Saybrook Home. The background is a photograph of a bright, modern dining room with a wooden table, white chairs, and a patterned armchair. Overlaid on the image is the text 'SH SAYBROOK HOME' in a large, serif font. At the bottom, there is a white banner with the text 'Furniture | Fashion | Lifestyle' and contact information: '2 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT | 860.388.0891 | SaybrookHome.com | @SaybrookHome'.

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 www.essexprinting.com

PUBLISHER

William E. McMinn

LAYOUT & AD DESIGN

Lynne Hardt

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First Selectman... continued from page 3

Town of Essex website, essexct.gov has a link to sign up for the Safer Essex Emergency Alert Program to ensure you receive important community news.

Lastly, please continue to support local businesses and restaurants in town if you can. They are a huge part of what makes Essex a very special place and they rely on our patronage.

All the Best,
Norm

Norm Needleman,
First Selectman

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Essex Community Fund

Essex Community Fund (ECF) has a long history of positive commitment to our community as evidenced by almost seven decades of consistent community-based support and service. While we support a broad range of locally based non-profits, our primary focus has always been on the health of our residents, youth and adult enrichment programs, in addition to addressing emerging needs.

FestiFall: We hope you visited our table on the Essex Green on Saturday, October 9th to learn more about how Essex Community Fund supports the residents of our three villages. It was a enjoyable family event and fun voting for our favorite scarecrow. There was live music, a scavenger hunt, face painting and more.

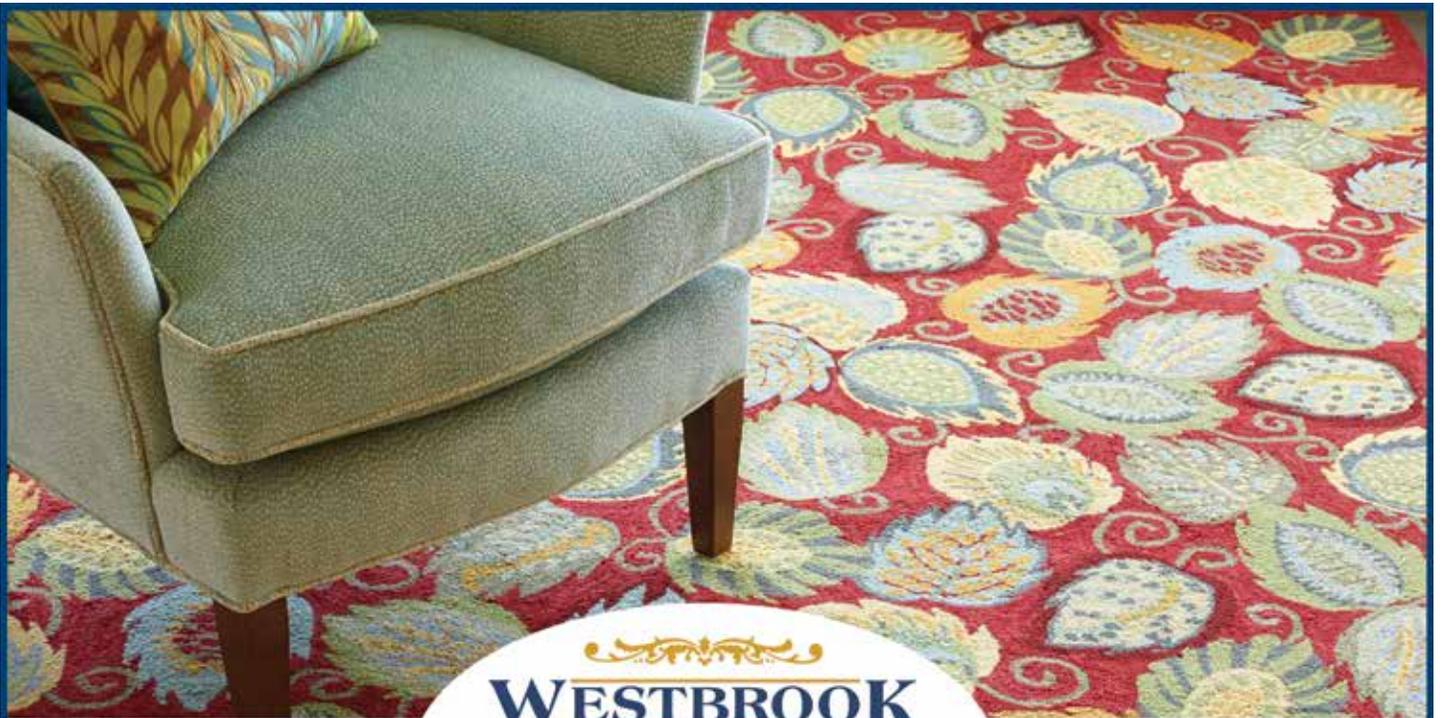
Fuel Assistance Challenge is an ongoing program available to residents who meet the funding criteria. Please consider joining this year's Challenge. Donations can be mailed to the

Essex Community Fund (PO Box 614, Essex 06426) with a note that it is for FAP. Thank you for helping us keep our neighbors warm and to Mary Ellen Barnes, Social Services Director at Essex Town Hall, for administering this important program.

Grant applications for local non-profits serving Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton residents can be submitted beginning October 15, 2021. Final date for submission is December 15, 2021. Visit our web site for more information: essexcommunityfund.org.

***Becoming A Volunteer** with ECF is a great way to learn more about your community's needs and how you can help improve it for you, your family, your neighbors, and is a great way to give back to your community. ECF has many opportunities to volunteer. Please contact us to learn more; we welcome your time and talent. info@essexcommunityfund.org*

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Essex Elementary School Foundation Summer Math Passport Program

EES STUDENTS FIND MATH IN THEIR COMMUNITY

A new Summer Math Passport Program was established at Essex Elementary School (EES) this year. Created by EES math coach, Shannon Vandermale, the program invited all students to participate, from incoming kindergarteners to outgoing 6th-graders. Similar to the summer reading program at EES, the math passports were designed to help inspire and engage students in unique ways to have fun while continuing to learn math throughout the summer.



Essex Elementary School Summer Math Passport Program supported by the Essex Elementary School Foundation.

Students received their passports the last week of May which contained math equations at various grade-levels related to businesses, non-profits, buildings, and historical sites located throughout the Town of Essex. Examples of equations included counting the number of trails at an Essex Land Trust location and then calculating the time it would take to complete all of the trails at 3 miles per hour, or visiting Scoops Ice Cream to calculate the cost difference between a small and large cone or looking for and documenting geometric shapes found at the town



Student visited locations throughout the Town of Essex to solve math equations in their passport books.

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park. The program and equations were also formatted so that students who were away on summer vacations could easily adapt and apply equations to alternative locations. Completed passports were turned in upon the return to school in September.

Essex Elementary School Foundation (EESF) proudly supported the Summer Math Passport Program by funding the printing costs of the passports along with prizes for the participants. Participants who completed at least six activities received a deck of playing cards, and every student who turned in their passport was entered into a grade-level raffle to receive a gift certificate to

Toys Ahoy in Essex, CT, also donated by EESF.

“We were thrilled to see the number of students who participated in this inaugural program,” says Bill Jacaruso, President of the Essex Elementary School Foundation. “115 students submitted their completed passports, and we are confident that even more will do so next year. The foundation looks to continue to support programs like this to help students continue to develop their math skills all year long.” To learn more about the Essex Elementary School Foundation, visit: www.essexesf.org.

FISH (Friends in Service Here)

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The officers for 2021 are Henry May, President; Stuart Warner, Vice president; Mary Samburg, Secretary; Barbara Ryan, Treasurer and Jack Frost, Driver Recruitment. Dispatchers are John Heiser and Tony Carrano.

Board decided to suspend driving March 17, 2020. FISH provided some rides over the last several months in 2021 and have resumed full service beginning this September 2021. We have coordinated our plans with the health departments of Essex, Deep River and Chester. FISH drivers and riders are required to be vaccinated and to wear masks.

in the past by grants from the Essex Community Fund, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the Essex Rotary Club, the Essex Savings Bank, the Deep River Community Health Committee, the Town of Chester, the Town of Essex, and other organizations, as well as by contributions from our drivers, riders and friends. We did not ask for donations for 2021.

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Sister Cities - Essex & Haiti

UNDERSTANDING HAITI

In September, the Southeastern Connecticut World Affairs Council (SECWAC) and Sister Cities Essex Haiti (SCEH) welcomed Professor and Author Laurent Dubois for a lecture on how the history of Haiti has had a powerful impact on the complex political and cultural dynamics of the country.

As SECWAC Executive Director Paul Nugent wrote: “Your insights on the history of Haiti illuminated for us the sources of the problems in that beleaguered country, but also what we can learn from the people of Haiti - a perfect example of how to understand the present by examining the past.” Dubois’s book “Haiti: The Aftershocks of History” should be required reading for anyone who simply dismisses Haiti as “cursed” and “hopeless,” not realizing what an incredible country it is despite its challenges.

Many in our community do not know that Haiti was once the wealthiest country in the Caribbean sharing the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic. However, the source of its wealth was based on a brutal system of plantation slavery. Haiti was the first country in the Western Hemisphere to experience a successful slave revolt in 1804, but it came at a tremendous price for Haitians. Not only did



Pictured left to right: Alexandra Johnson, Bob Lamothe, Laurent Dubois, Jenifer Grant and Kathleen Maher.

its citizens have to pay tremendous reparations to France but the intervention and policies of the United States also handicapped any attempts at an easy road to Democracy, and in fact, have continued to add to Haiti’s challenges.

Deschapelles, is a special place. Hospital Albert Schweitzer provides health services and employs 400 people boosting the economy. The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education provides scholarships to able needy children, and Sister Cities Essex Haiti supports beneficial programs that are requested by

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community including exemplary library, tennis, music, and robotics programs. All programs are run by local Haitians. Programs like these in towns like this, where people are in charge of their own destiny, can serve as a model that empowers the Haitians to create a stronger country.

To watch the Dubois presentation, go to: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/IFwF3JVNc5f_3j9vHGM8mTZZgLfU9l1GtxMx3_EgB6mMmvVTBsiW2HqCFz9fSvA.3qV4E-2qyvXG8jj_

For further information about SCEH go to: SisterCitiesEssexHaiti.org.

Essex Garden Club Announces Officers

The Essex Garden Club kicked off their 2021/2022 Year with a luncheon at the Essex Yacht Club on September 13th, 2021. While the past year has been challenging, due to COVID restrictions, the Club was able to accomplish many projects for the community. Some of the projects included making the EGC's Famous Garlic Salt, awarded a scholarship to Nathaniel Hill, provided scholarships to 54 children from Essex Communities to attend area environmental camps. While our normal May Market was cancelled due to Covid restrictions a smaller May Flower Sale was held at the Main Street Park in the spring. Many thanks to the generous donations



From Left to right:
Barbara Muhlfelder -Treasurer, Janice Strait-Corresponding Secretary, Pam Peters -President, Jennifer Gill-Recording Secretary, Dagmar Miller - First VP/ Club Historian, Pat Mather - Asst. Treasurer.

that helped fund this event. The EGC continued their assistance to keep the parks and islands in town looking beautiful and continued decorating for the holidays with donated greens that were used in Main Street Flower boxes, urns and planters. This

year the EGC illuminated the gazebo on Main Street with hundreds of lights. Hopefully a new tradition has begun. The year ahead looks very optimistic... Get ready for May Market in 2022... IT WILL BE BACK!



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Essex Land Trust Coming Events



NOVEMBER IS PROPERTY CLEANUP MONTH FOR THE ESSEX LAND TRUST

Three preserves will be looking for volunteers to put them to bed for the winter. Please join us on the following dates and locations. Bring rakes, blowers, and tarps. Dress warmly. Families welcome.

• **Saturday, November 6, 9:00 am:** Cross Lots, 40 West

Avenue, Essex. Rain Date: Sunday November 7.

• **Saturday, November 13, 9:00 am:** Osage Trails, Foxboro Road, Essex. Rain Date: Sunday, November 14.

• **Saturday, November 20, 9:00 am:** Falls River Landing, Falls River Drive, Ivoryton. Rain Date: Sunday November 21



Saturday December 4, 10:00 am - A Geology Hike with Bob Wintsch.

Meet at Canfield Woods Preserve, Book Hill Woods Road entrance, Essex

Bob Wintsch taught geology at Indiana University for 43 years but conducted much of his research in the New England Appalachians. Now after retiring he moved to

Haddam where he continues his research in the bed-rock geology of Connecticut. He is now affiliated with Wesleyan University and the Geological Survey of Connecticut.

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Land Trust Elects Officers & New Board Members

The Essex Land Trust Board has elected the following slate of officers.



Shown left and below going from left to right: Jim Denham, President; Jeff Croyle 1st Vice President; Bob Nussbaum, 2nd Vice President; Deb Carreau, Treasurer; and Carrie Daly, Secretary.



Two new members have joined the Essex Land Trust Board, elected at the land trust's May Annual Meeting. **Deb Carreau** has assumed the position of Treasurer. Deb spent 23 years in senior finance, controller, and audit roles at UTC, two years as VP Finance at Stanley Works, eight years as CFO of a publicly traded company, and two years as an auditor with PwC.



Leif Owens has become the Preserves Director taking on the lead stewardship role. He retired after 34 years with 3M with over 20 years' experience managing US and International manufacturing operations.

His nonprofit experience included serving on various 3M Foundation initiatives in both the Twin Cities and various Connecticut locations.

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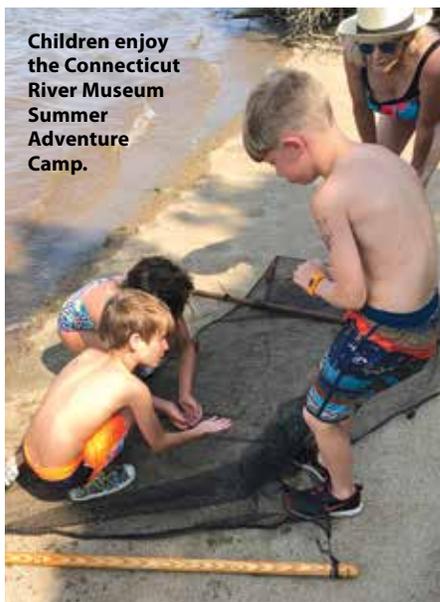
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Connecticut River Museum News

Fall is here, and as the seasons change so do the programs, activities, and exhibits at the Connecticut River Museum.



Children enjoy the Connecticut River Museum Summer Adventure Camp.

This past summer was filled with wonderful experiences, sailing on the Onrust, our fifth annual Paddle Regatta, music at Thursdays on the Dock, Summer Adventure Camp, and so much more! Thank you to everyone who participated and enjoyed the Connecticut River with us. Here are a few highlights...

Onrust public cruises, charters, and education programs started in May. Thousands of visitors enjoyed this replica 1614 vessel on a peaceful sail on the River. Many helped to haul a line and explore below deck!

Thursdays on the Dock featured an all-star roster of musical talent! A special thanks goes out to Essex Wellness Center for their generous sponsorship and free massages!!!

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Our feature exhibit, Hands on the Land: Art and the Environment in the Connecticut River Valley, explored the story of human impact on our Connecticut River Valley. This exhibit, in collaboration with the Lyme Art Association, showcased 40 works of art.

COMING UP:

This fall we look forward to:

- **The Rivers That Connect Us:** Exploring America's Great Rivers virtual lecture series runs through December.
- **The 28th Annual Holiday Train Show,** opening November 23.
- **Trees in the Rigging** on November 28, there is no better way to kick off the holiday season.

JOIN THE TREES IN THE RIGGING BOAT PARADE

Do you have a great idea for your boat's decorations for the Trees in the Rigging Boat Parade? Don't delay, get your entry in now! Big boats, little boats, power boats, sailboats, even paddle boats, all are welcome to ring in the season on November 28. For more information and to sign up for the Boat Parade, please contact Allison Insall at: ainsall@ctrivermuseum.org.

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Dr. Julian Zelizer, speaker
at Essex Library's Annual Meeting
on October 27.

Essex Library hosts its annual meeting on October 27 at 5:00 pm with special guest Julian Zelizer, frequent commentator on political history and contemporary politics on CNN and other national and international media. He will discuss the topic "Is Congress Broken?" with moderator Sam Tanenhaus, former Editor of The New York Time Book Review. Zelizer is the Malcom

Stevenson Forbes, Class of 1941 Professor of History and Public Affairs at Princeton University and the author of several books;

his newest biography, *Abraham Joshua Heschel: A Life of Radical Amazement*, will be published in October, 2021 by Yale University Press. Zelizer's other books include: *Burning Down the House: Newt Gingrich, the Fall of a Speaker and the Rise of the New Republican Party*; and *On Capitol Hill: The Struggle to Reform Congress and its Consequences, 1948-2000*. Dr. Zelizer is a graduate of Brandeis University and earned his doctorate at The Johns Hopkins University.

Essex Library was the recipient of a generous grant from Guilford Savings Bank and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County which funded the purchase of six new Chromebooks and a series of tech workshops this fall for the community called the 2021 Laptop Series. Series topics include: how to use Chromebooks; coding; using free online genealogy resources; cutting the cord; and downloading digital resources from the library. These workshops are free and open to the public.

FOOD IS A THEME FOR NOVEMBER'S EVENTS

On November 4, author Mike Urban will discuss his latest book: *Unique Eats and Eateries of Connecticut: The People and Stories Behind the Food*. On November 6, Essex Library, partnering with 7 other Connecticut libraries, will host renowned food author Dorie Greenspan in conversation with Priscilla Martel, former

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owner of Restaurant du Village in Chester. They'll discuss Greenspan's latest cookbook: Baking With Dorie: Sweet, Salty & Simple and many other delicious things just in time for holiday cooking inspiration! Please check the Library's website for more info on upcoming programs & services.

For more information, contact us at:

Essex Library

33 West Avenue, Essex, CT 06426
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The Friends of the Essex Library

PLAY BINGO WITH THE FRIENDS!

Support your Essex Library and businesses in the town of Essex by playing a fun game for cash prizes. Take a chance to win cash just in time for the holidays! Game cards are available for \$10 (cash or check) at the library until November 19th.

When you visit a participating business with your card, ask them to place a sticker in their box. No purchase is necessary to obtain a sticker. The goal is to complete 5 squares in a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal row with a sticker and return the card to the library. One



completed row per card provides you with one entry into the raffle for cash prizes totaling \$1,200. Prize winners will be randomly chosen on the afternoon of November 23rd. Winners need not be present.

BOOK SALE

The November/December focused sale will feature many pristine books that are perfect for gift giving as well as new jigsaw puzzles. The sale will in the foyer and just inside the inner doors.

We would like to thank everyone for your continued support of the Friends, so that, in turn, we can support the Essex Library which provides wonderful programs free of charge to the public!

Remember to check the library's website often to see what's new at the library and with the Friends! Visit us at: www.youressexlibrary.org.

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Ivoryton Library 1871 – 2021

The Ivoryton Library was so sorry to have to postpone our 150 Birthday Gala from October 2021 to Spring 2022 (fingers crossed!)

WE DO HAVE ONE MORE EVENT PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR

Please join us on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at the Copper Beech Inn for a very fun Midnight at the Masquerade Murder Mystery Dinner! Tickets are available at the Ivoryton Library. Check ivorytonlibrary.org for more information!

Have you signed up for this year's Pumpkin Chase, Saturday, October 23? For the 5K, and the Kid's Run, sign up the same day. For our Virtual 5K, register online and run on your own from October 23-31. Visit the website for more information and the registration link!

The Haunted Library will be closed this year during the Ivoryton Village Pumpkin Festival (Booooooo!) for safety reasons. Inside and outside will be decorated so please visit during Library hours for a mild haunting! However! The witches will be back for trick-or-treaters on Saturday, October 30 from 9am to 12noon! Visit the Ivoryton Library, Gather, the Ivoryton Playhouse and the Ivoryton Tavern! We want to see those costumes!

Adult Craft Nights are starting back up, virtual or in-person as permitted. Check our website for dates and crafts involved! Our next is Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 pm for Book Page Holiday Décor. Call 860-767-1252 or register online at ivorytonlibrary.org. Virtual events will have materials for pickup available.

OUR CHILDREN'S ROOM IS ALWAYS BUSTLING

Storytimes, Music Programs, Cooking Classes! News of our programs is on the website and Facebook. Email EBartlett@ivorytonlibrary.org to get the newsletter!

The Haunted Library will be closed this year during the Ivoryton Village Pumpkin Festival (Booooooo!) for safety reasons. Inside and outside will be decorated so please visit during Library hours for a mild haunting! However! The witches will be back for trick-or-treaters on Saturday, October 30 from 9:00 am - 12 noon! Visit the Ivoryton Library, Gather, the Ivoryton Playhouse and the Ivoryton Tavern! We want to see those costumes!

The Ivoryton Library is open Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Closed Sundays. Visit us at: 106 Main Street in Ivoryton or online: ivorytonlibrary.org. Email us at: staff@ivorytonlibrary.org or call us 860-767-1252. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: [@ivorytonlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/ivorytonlibrary).



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All About Brandy After Dinner

Brandy, short for Brandywine comes in a variety of types or flavors. Most brandies are made from grapes, but what keeps them apart from wine is that

they are distilled. Distilling is vaporizing liquid by heating it until it reaches 212 degrees fahrenheit which decreases the water content, producing higher alcohol content, then catching the vapors and cooling them so they form back into liquid. The alcohol content of brandy is usually at 40% or 80 proof. The premiere brandies from France are produced in the town of Cognac. This brandy is distilled double in pot stills to give its unique flavors. Most are then aged in wooden casks. Cognac is blended so typically there is no set age, however there are categories of quality. The first one being V.S. which means very special, contains brandy no less than 3 years old. V.S.O.P stands for very old special pale ale no less than 5 years old. The XO which is the superior brandy of Cognac and the oldest age blended but can vary quite a bit between brandy houses.

Armagnac is a town in the region of Gascon which is another area in France producing fine quality brandy. This style is also said to be better than a lot of Cognacs but doesn't quite get the recognition. This brandy has great depth and a touch of sweetness. Each of these brandies from France has different grape profiles according to where it comes from. While we are still in France let us discuss the region of Calvados. The brandy from here is made from apples instead of grapes, which produce a slight apple taste, more the essence of the fruit rather than the bright flavor and tartness. All the brandies above are considered brown because they get their color from the oak barrels. The clear brandy is called Eaux De Vie. They could be considered the essence of the fruit that it's produced from. Some examples are Kirsch which is cherry brandy, Framboise – raspberry brandy and Piore – pear brandy. These brandies are not sweet but they do have intense flavors and smell. We also have these styles of brandy made here in Connecticut.

California also produces some excellent quality brandies, but the bulk are more affordable because they are slightly less quality and mass produced. Many recipes call for Cognac which is the most expensive way to go, where most any brand will do. Also instead of using Calvados for apple brandy you can substitute it for Apple Jack a less expensive version produced in California.

I hope this widens your temptation to try a brandy as an after dinner cocktail.

Cheers!

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Harry B. Wells Bailey
Lorraine Nagle
Helen M. Nielsen
Thomas S. Corso

Mary F. Readinger
Clayton C. Thibeault
James S. Martin
Ethel Hanks

August

Richard E. Pierce
Samuel R. Connor
Joanne V. Kottke
Carol Phillips
Thomas J. Graham Sr.
Ellen E. Wells

July

Robert E. Peterson
Maria G. Gaultney
William A. Ramcke
Margaret M. Cunningham
Ralph J. Monaco
Anthony G.C. Wickersham

September

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Not if you're dumping leaves or other yard waste into a stream, pond, or other wetlands!

Although it may seem like a natural way to dispose of grass and leaves, the extra burden of organic material can harm a wetland. Excess organics and nutrients can overload waterways as well as suffocate plant and animal life living there. Additionally, it's against State and Town regulations to dump in wetlands.

Many ponds experience natural filling over the course of decades and centuries called "eutrophication", turning deep ponds to shallow and shallower ponds, then to bogs, and ultimately meadows. Dumping lawn waste into ponds or the streams that feed them can accelerate the process significantly.

If you've been in Essex long enough, you've seen waterbodies change over time, experiencing algae blooms and/or growing vegetation in areas that were once too deep for it to establish. Additionally, when leaves are placed in seasonal wetlands like vernal pools, the wildlife that depend on them can no longer breed or feed there. Wetlands don't have to have year-round visible water to be wetlands.

So, what should you do with the lawn waste generated from maintaining your yard? Composting away from wetlands is a great option, if you have a little space. A simple online search on "Composting" will offer guidance. The resulting compost is great for a top-dressing for next year's lawn or for use in your garden. Follow guidance for



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Dumping lawn waste into ponds or the streams that feed them can accelerate the natural filling process.

material mix and pH management - it's not complicated. You can add vegetable scraps from your kitchen, too.

If you can't compost your yard waste, the Town offers a leaf composting service for drop-off. More information can be found here at: <https://www.essexct.gov/landfill-transfer-station/news/leaf-composting-information-0>.

Please do your part to help Essex maintain our wetlands and waterways!

Essex IWWC



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Tonight's the Night

Your senses begin to tingle as evening slowly creeps over Essex. There is an unutterable feel in the air as the moon floats like a spectral eye watching you from among the wispy clouds. Scarecrows on Main Street wave to you in the breeze, and shadows dance in the pale moonlight.

Those who must pass the town cemetery do so with hurried treads, as visions of vampires dance in their heads. The gates of the graveyard are open to let visitors in. But as all who reside in Essex are keenly aware; on this night; the open gates also allow those who dwell inside to leave.

Wayfarers stare straight ahead and try to ignore the fleeting phantoms beckoning them from the gloomy twilight. They vainly assure themselves the soft patter behind them is only their imagination; yet they refuse to look back lest they spy the Headless Horseman stealthily following them.

Black cats lurk in the darkness with their slit eyes glowing while they watch the night skies; patiently waiting for their covens to arrive. Ravens on the town green swagger and call out as if mimicking the Town Criers of centuries ago announcing the imminent arrival of something ominous... "Never More!"



Up and down the walkways, Jack-O-Lanterns flare to life. Whether with happy or frightening visages; they tempt and seduce passers-by with their warm glow. In one's, and two's and in families; goblins, monsters, and witches slowly gather in the center of Essex. For tonight's the night they have awaited all year. It is "All Hallow's Eve."

Suddenly, the crackle of drums fills the street and the sharp

Essex - Community Listings

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 First Baptist Church..... (860) 767-8623
 First Congregational Church (860) 767-8097
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 St. Teresa of Calcutta Church..... (860) 767-1284
 St. John's Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-8095
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 Democratic Town Committee..... (781) 483-2021
 Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
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 tritownpack13@gmail
 Essex Board of Trade..... (860) 767-3904
 Essex Boy Scouts of America (860) 304-9027
 Essex Community Fund..... (860) 304-2751
 Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
 Essex Garden Club (860) 388-7209

Essex Historical Society (860) 767-0681
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 Essex Little League..... www.essexlittleleague.org
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 Lower Valley Visiting Nurses (860) 767-0186
 Republican Town Committee..... (860) 262-0226
 SCORE Mentors (860) 388-9508
 The Shoreline Soup Kitchens (860) 388-1988
 Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau (860) 526-3600
 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429

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Essex Elementary School..... (860) 767-8215
 John Winthrop Middle School..... (860) 526-9546
 Superintendent..... (860) 526-2417
 Valley Regional High School..... (860) 526-5328

trill of fifes pierces the air. Are the spirits of the War of 1812 rising to once again defend their beloved town from the navy of King George? Well; close... but even better. It's actually the Sailing Masters of 1812, doing what they do best. When the bell tolls six; with drummers' beat and fifers' tweet, the Sailing Masters take the street; to lead a favorite Essex treat..... the Essex Halloween Parade!

The Sailing Masters are instantly recognizable on the streets of Essex in their War of 1812 "USS CONSTITUTION" Navy uniforms. They lead parades in Essex throughout the year in their very distinctive attire. But though their uniforms are THE BEST COSTUME EVER; for this yearly monster march you will find the Sailing Masters trooping down the lane as pirates, and jesters, and clowns...oh my!

The children of Essex Village excitedly prance after the Sailing Masters as if spellbound by the Pied Piper. And their parents are likewise enchanted by the lively tunes as the Sailing Masters lure one and all; not to their doom; but down Main Street to apple cider and popcorn delights!

continued on page 26

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Visit our website at:
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Betsy D'Amico, Alyson Finnegan	x145	afinnegan@essexct.gov

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Betsy D'Amico, Assistant	x123	bdamico@essexct.gov

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Darcy Roper	x144	droper@essexct.gov

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James Francis, Treasurer	x127	jfrancis@essexct.gov

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Tim LaChance	x148	tlachance@essexct.gov

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Barbara Ryan	x142	bryan@essexct.gov

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Todd Belcourt		tbelcourt@essexct.gov
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SOCIAL SERVICES

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TAX COLLECTOR

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Lynne Skinner, Assistant	x121	lskinner@essexct.gov

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Yvonne Roziak, Assistant	x128	yroziak@essexct.gov

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Kerry Berardinelli	x119	kberardinelli@essexct.gov

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Sailing Masters... continued from page 25

Once the Sailing Masters serenade those savoring the sweet and salty tastes of fall. You stroll around Essex neighborhoods bursting with trick-or-treaters, join them on porches to sample candied treasures, and admire the colorful spectacle of costumes and the houses decorated to make all ghouls and hobgoblins feel welcome.

Sadly, the evening passes by all too quickly. Monsters and buccaneers and sorcerers who fearlessly roamed the streets of Essex slowly disperse and disappear back into their haunts as the night wanes. As you walk down the now deserted Main Street, the bustling town filled with superheroes, princesses and zombies has become ghostly quiet. When the clock strikes the witching hour, Halloween has departed for another year. After the last plaintive cries of "Trick or Treat!" have echoed in the distance; only a few grinning Jack-O-Lanterns remain flickering on front porches as you stroll by, to wish you one last "Happy Halloween!" And to let you know they look forward to seeing you again next year.

But the knowing grins of the Jack-O-Lanterns also hide a little secret. That, unlike the vampires and witches who must wait another year to return, the Sailing Masters will be back in less than a month on Thanksgiving weekend for the annual Essex "Trees in the Rigging" Parade to kick off the Yuletide season in Essex! No matter what the time of year, if there is a celebration to be had in Essex, the Sailing Masters are sure to appear. It's downright spooky.

If you would like to really experience everything about Essex throughout the year, the Sailing Masters invite you to "Come Aboard!" No previous musical experience is required. Join us to discover a mystical, magical world of music and costumes and fun... oh my!

You can chose from fife, snare drum, bass drum, and color guard (carry a flag.) For more information please call Vicki Miorelli at: 860-212-1606 or email her at: captainvicki1812@gmail.com; or call Amanda Auger at: 860-575-8931 or email her at: aepfairbanks@gmail.com.

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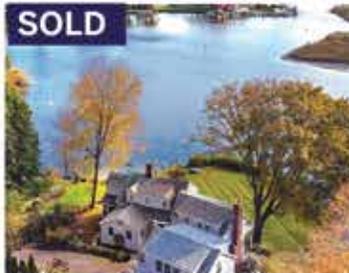
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Ivoryton Playhouse



Covid dealt us all quite a blow last year but in July the Ivoryton Playhouse got back on its feet and began producing small, socially distanced stories and musicals. Tropical Storm Ida tried to knock us down again in September by flooding our basement



Ray and Steve carry chairs out of the flooded basement.

and destroying our kitchen and dressing rooms but you can't keep a good theatre down for long and as soon as we had mopped and pumped and tore up the carpets we were back on our feet again!

As long as we can duck and weave, we plan to see out the year with 2 more productions. On October 28th, 2021, we open *SAY GOODNIGHT, GRACE: The Life, Laughter and Love of George Burns and Gracie Allen* By Rupert Holmes. Come and spend a hilarious, heart-warming evening in the company of the world's favorite and funniest centenarian. George Burns, who spanned one hundred years of American entertainment history, is now miraculously alive and kicking in a stunning tour de force. *Say Goodnight, Gracie* was Broadway's third longest running solo performance show and was nominated for a 2003 Tony Award for BEST PLAY and won the



Allen Rupert Holmes.

2003-04 National Broadway Theatre Award for BEST PLAY.

In December, when the village of Ivoryton turns on the beautiful Christmas lights, the Ivoryton Playhouse will open *A CHRISTMAS SURVIVAL GUIDE* by James Hindman and Ray Roderick. Filled with new and old holiday songs, this intimate revue takes a wry and knowing look at a stressful season. Join our cast of characters as they search for the true meaning of Christmas, armed with a copy of *A Christmas Survival Guide* and an optimistic attitude. Funny, heartwarming and magical, this musical is a Christmas treat the whole family can enjoy.

With fingers crossed and sandbags at the ready, we look forward to welcoming you at the theatre this fall. And look out for our 2022 season announcement coming soon.

Jacqueline Hubbard, Artistic/Executive Director

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Essex Historical Society (EHS)

Please join Essex Historical Society (EHS) as we close out 2021 and welcome 2022 with events and activities that bring our community together in safe, fun and informative ways.

Help EHS kick-off the holiday season on November 28, 2021, for some family fun at the Trees in the Rigging and Boat Float parade. The parade begins at the Essex Town Hall at 4:30 pm followed by a brief stop at Pratt House to pick up Mr. Pratt who leads all in joyful caroling as the parade continues down Main Street. If you are interested in participating in the parade or contributing a "boat float" please contact EHS at ehs@essexhistory.org for more information.

In lieu of our traditional holiday gathering EHS will host an outdoor food drive on December 5, 2021 to benefit our local food pantries and kitchens. Drop by with a donation of any non-perishable food item(s) and enjoy light refreshments and some holiday cheer on the historic Pratt House grounds, 19 West Ave., Essex.

EHS's standing room only lecture series will continue in the new year on Zoom. These lectures will be presented on Sunday afternoons in January. Check back with EHS for specific scheduling and topics at our website www.essexhistory.org

Searching for other ways to engage with Essex's history? Please



Make a lighted 'Boat Float' for the Trees in the Rigging parade on Nov. 28! Courtesy of Essex Historical Society

browse our library of active videos featuring popular and collaborative programs on EHS's YouTube channel, "Essex CT Historical Society." Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to participate in our feature "Find it Fridays", a virtual history scavenger hunt that encourages participants to get out in their neighborhoods to enjoy history with some fresh air.

EHS's main building, Hills Academy History Center, is open year round, Tuesday and Thursday mornings and by appointment. We are always looking for volunteers to get involved with local

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"Mr. Pratt" exits Pratt House to lead the Community Carol Sing for the Trees in the Rigging and Boat Float Parade. Photo courtesy of Essex Historical Society.



Support your community at the "Stuff the Wagon" Holiday Food Drive at Pratt House on Dec. 5, 2021. Photo courtesy of Essex Historical Society.

history! For additional information and all other inquiries please contact EHS at: 860-767-0681 or: www.essexhistory.org.

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Essex Board of Trade Hosts Annual Scarecrow Contest & FestiFALL!!

Fall is here and so is Essex Board of Trade's (EBOT's) 2021 Scarecrow Contest & FestiFALL. Follow the yellow brick road of scarecrows and vote for your favorite one!

SCARECROW DISPLAY & CONTEST COMMENCED OCTOBER 7TH

The annual "scarecrow lamp-post display" - scarecrows created by Essex residents and businesses - currently lines the Main Streets of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton villages. Everyone is encouraged to submit their vote for "best scarecrow" to one of six business locations: J. Alden Clothiers, CT River Museum, Savour Café, Blue Hound Cookery, Ivoryton Library and Elite Nutrition. Winners will be announced at the Halloween parade, October 31st on Main Street, Essex, and on all social media.

Clockwise on right: The Flying Monkey Scarecrow, Glinda the Good Witch & Wicked Witch of the West and Krisitn & Wes Bray with the Privateer Pete Scarecrow.



continued on page 34

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Scarecrows & FestiFALL... continued from page 32

2021 Scarecrow FestiFALL The festival took place in Essex Village on Saturday, October 9th, and EBOT is taking this opportunity to extend a big THANK YOU to event co-chairwomen, Samantha McDowell and Stacia Libby. EBOT President, Amy D'Alessio, says, "Samantha and Stacia brought fresh energy and imagination to this year's event, using The Wizard of Oz for inspiration, and we are beyond grateful for their volunteer support."

New this year were special guests, "The Wicked Witch of the West" and "Glinda the Good Witch," who flew into You Me and the Sea for selfie photos. Big highlights were two "Twilight Tours of

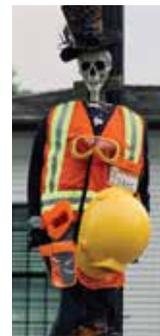


Above: Facepainting,

Right: Notorious Scarecrow.



Left: Middlesex Habitat for Humanity Scarecrow.



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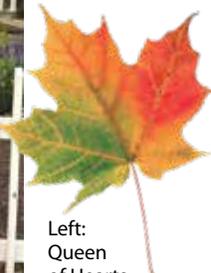
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Left:
Queen of Hearts
Scarecrow.



Riverview Cemetery,” hosted by the Essex Historical Society. Connecticut River Museum featured Spooky Tree making kids crafts and free admission to children under 18. Essex Park & Recreation sponsored an afternoon concert in Essex Park featuring live music by the Meadow Brothers. Finally, the Ivoryton Library presented an evening outdoor movie - The Wizard of Oz, of course!

Join EBOT on Facebook and Instagram at: Experience Essex. Visit our website at: essexct.com

SUGGESTED HASHTAGS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA ARE:

- #sxscarecrow,
- #experienceessex, #essexct,
- #destinationessex, #visitct

Right:
Mother Earth
Scarecrow.



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Tri-Town Cub Scouts Pack 13 Chester-Deep River-Essex



Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 Chester-Deep River-Essex is dedicated to the growth and development of boys and girls in grades K-5.

Cub Scouts in Pack 13 are given wholesome opportunities for physical, mental and intellectual development. Most of all - Everything is focused on FUN!

PLANS FOR 2021-2022

Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 is ready for another active year getting everyone outside as much as possible. We are continuing on with the Hike of the Month program to get everyone out and exploring the trails in our area. We will have our annual pinewood derby and rocketry day, camping overnights as well as opportunities to earn NOVA-STEM awards & conservation awards. Keep

your eyes open and you may see some of our community service projects around town this year.

QUICK FACTS ABOUT PACK 13 & CUB SCOUTS

- Pack 13 has been a part of the Chester, Deep River and Essex community for more than 50 years chartered by the United Church of Chester.
- Dens are made up of children of the same grade and rank. Dens usually meet 1-3 times each month to work on requirements, take trips or do service projects.
- The Pack is made up of all dens and meets once a month as a group, on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
- Parents are encouraged to become leaders. Training is required for all adult volunteer leaders, and is provided by both the Pack and the Boy Scouts of America Council office.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

For more information or to join Cub Scout Pack please email Cubmaster GR Nash Jr. or Pack Committee Chair,



Lianne Rutty at tritownpack13@gmail.com. Families can sign up at anytime of the year, if you think your child would enjoy and benefit from what we offer.




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Education Initiatives in Connecticut

Across the state of Connecticut, administrators, teachers and students are well underway with their lesson plans for the 2021 school year. While educators are accustomed to teaching their students language arts, history, math and science, another important discussion to have with younger generations in the classroom is energy efficiency. Throughout the years, Eversource has provided educational programming to hundreds of schools across the state, cultivating positive energy behaviors and ensuring students know ways they can make a positive impact on the planet. Eversource, an Energize ConnecticutSM sponsor, offers eemarts[™], Green STEP and Home Energy Challenges to encourage students and parents to make changes in their everyday lives, leaving a healthy planet for generations to come.

eemarts[™] consists of an annual contest, professional development workshops for educators, energy efficiency lessons for students, and resources for parents. The popular eemarts[™] annual student contest asks students to answer grade level-specific prompts, like a poster or a public service announcement. This year, more than 244 students across the state submitted entries and we hope to continue increasing participation each year. James Waters of Mystic, who attends St. Bernard School in Montville, was the first-place winner for sixth grade and wrote a persuasive speech about how the state can become more energy efficient. When asked about the contest, he said, "I learned that helping save the environment with clean sources and renewable energy is very important." Second-place winner for Kindergarten, Raegan Phanavong of New Britain created a drawing and she said, "Mr. K (art teacher) gave clues on recycling. So, I drew Daddy recycling and I turned off the lights in the morning that we used at night." Winners of the competition received a box in the mail from Eversource with their certificate, an eemarts[™] water bottle, energy-efficient night light and an Amazon gift card. Look for details about the next student contest in early 2022.

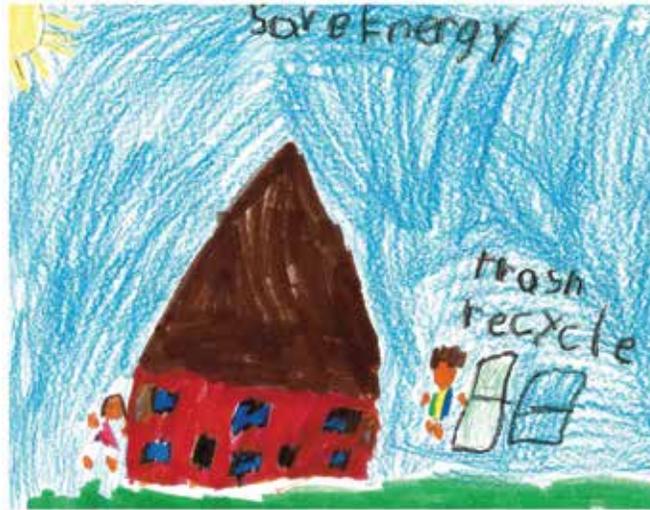
To encourage and prepare our vocational high school students to enter green careers, Green STEP (Sustainability

Technical Education Program) provides young people with energy efficiency knowledge and skills in their chosen trade, as well as awareness of related career pathways through real-world learning experiences. It gives students the opportunity to research, analyze and implement energy-efficiency strategies in their schools and communities. There are almost 4,000 students enrolled in the program, and Eversource hopes that many of those students can one day gain employment in the energy efficiency industry.

Eversource also offers the Home Energy Challenge. The Home Energy Challenge was created in 2020 by Eversource, because of at-home schooling becoming commonplace across the nation. It was designed to provide families across Eversource's service territories at-home energy conservation projects that educate students and their families. Between May 2020 and August 2021, Eversource

provided four unique topics – insulation, home energy conservation, LED lighting and energy transformation – and had nearly 2,700 participants across CT, MA and NH.

The current education programs offered by Eversource, through Energize CTSM, and new programs that will come to life, aim to educate our communities on actions they can take to make our planet thrive for years to come. Teaching about renewable energy and energy efficiency now will help equip younger generations in the future. We hope to be giving students a foundation to keep innovating, learning and practicing ways to combat climate change. For more information on how to get involved in Eversource's energy efficiency education offerings, please visit www.eversource.com.



Second-place winner for Kindergarten, Raegan Phanavong of New Britain.

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SCSU Baseball Coach Tim Shea - From a baseball dream to a baseball dream job... by Sigrid Kun

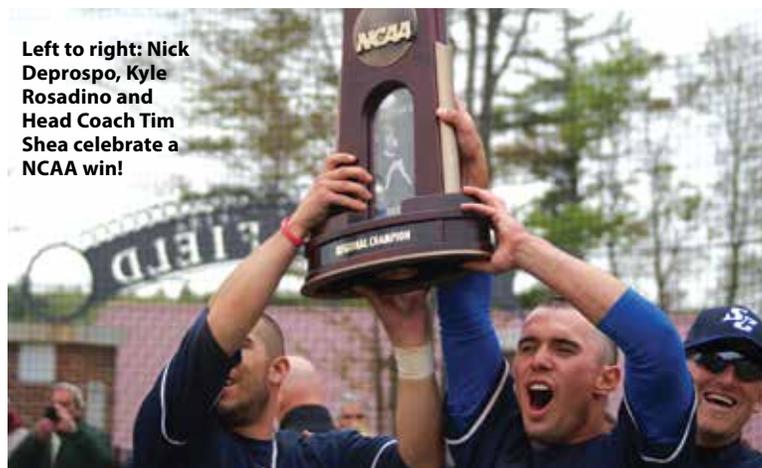
Like for so many kids, Tim Shea had the dream - the lure of being a major league baseball player. While the West Haven Little Leaguer didn't get to the MLB, he's found his baseball home as head baseball coach at Southern Connecticut State University.

SOME THINGS ARE JUST MEANT TO BE...

Coach Shea and SCSU simply go together. But SCSU was never in the plans. Shea was recruited by UCONN as a student athlete - following in his big brother's footsteps. It was the Big East, with annual College World Series opportunities. The perfect fit.

"I left before the first workout," recounts Shea. Home sick and feeling lost on a large campus, Shea was thinking UNH. Then, Shea experienced one of the most influential conversations of his life. Two simple questions from Joe Tonelli, Shea's former athletic director at Notre Dame HS and assistant coach at UNH. 'Why do you want to go to UNH?' Shea's simple answer - great baseball program.

'What do you want to study and what profession do you want after playing?' After some thought Shea's reply was possibly a teacher and a coach. Shea recalls an unforgettable response. "Then why the hell do you want to go to UNH? Right up the road is Southern. They have exactly what you are looking for!"



Left to right: Nick Deprospro, Kyle Rosadino and Head Coach Tim Shea celebrate a NCAA win!

Shea blossomed as a SCSU student athlete. The two-year captain led the nation in doubles per game in 1987, his senior year. He was team MVP in 1985 and Second-Team All-Conference in 1986. He secured a degree in Special Education, a teaching job and coached football and baseball at NDHS before arriving back at SCSU in 1991 as an assistant and becoming head coach in 2001. Over his 32-year tenure coaching the Owls, there are six NCAA Tournament appearances and two NCAA World Series berths. Shea is a three-time Northeast 10 Conference Coach of the Year and a three-time Northeast Regional Coach of the Year. He's had 8 seasons of 30 or more wins. On May 1, 2019 he captured his 467th victory to become the winningest coach in program history.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

While there are so many analytics (spin ratios, launch angles), Shea trusts his eyes when determining whether a player has what it takes or not. Along with skill set, Shea looks for intangibles like being willing to sacrifice, accountability, dedication,

determination and mental toughness. From there, he gets to know his players and what makes them tick. "The more you know a player, the better suited you are to motivate them and help them reach their full potential," he explains. Having effective practices requires strong time management skills. Structure and discipline are necessary so that players respond as expected in tough situations.

The players hold a special place in Shea's heart, not just accomplishments on the field but also in their professional and family lives. Many are married, have children. They are police officer, firemen, teachers, coaches, businessmen, and even a Navy Seal. "I'm so proud of each and every one of them," Shea underscores.



Tim and Son TJ at post-game conference.

Photography courtesy SCSU Athletics.

THE LOVE OF BASEBALL / FAMILY

Shea's love of baseball derives from his family. His mother and father encouraged him to play sports. "My Dad was not only the absolute best father one could ask for, he was also the best coach," reflects Shea. Shea tagged along with his brother to play in sand lot games. Playing baseball with the older kids showed Shea that he could compete.

Family is still central to Shea - from walking the dog with his wife, golfing with his son, playing dominoes with his wife, mother, mother and father-in-law ... or, his favorite, playing with his two granddaughters. And there's that memorable moment in his coaching career. "Slapping my son TJ's hands as he rounded third base after hitting a game tying 3-run homerun at the College World Series," he relates. "And then, later that evening, sharing the stage with him at the post-game conference and hear him deflect all the praise for his performance to the play and comradery of his teammates. I was not just a proud coach but also a proud father. It doesn't get any better than that!"

WHAT KEEPS HIM GOING?

There are two things. "One is my players," Shea says. "I just love that I am able to be a small part of their lives. Helping them to reach their full potential on and off the field. The second thing that keeps me going is the chase. I tell my players every day: 'Chase perfection to catch excellence.' I love the chase, the process, the journey. Trying to get better every day so that at the end of a season something magical might happen."



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